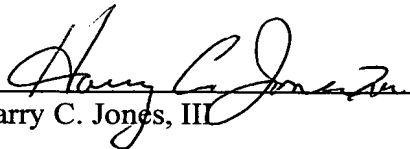


REMARKS

The claims have been amended to conform to U.S. practice. An action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date August 16, 1999

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